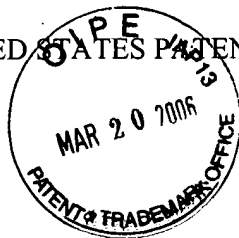


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:) Confirmation No. 1982
)
Tsuguo SATOH et al.)
)
Serial No. 10/602,664) Examiner: Daniel J. Petkovsek
)
Filed: June 25, 2003) Group Art Unit: 2874
)
Title: FERRULE HEATING APPARATUS AND METHOD) Attorney Docket No.
OF ADHERING FERRULE AND OPTICAL FIBER) 000004.00679



**COMMENTS ON EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT AND
STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

MAIL STOP ISSUE FEE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

An Examiner's Amendment was entered on December 20, 2005. Applicants assert that the Amendment is clarifying in nature and was not intended to, and did not, narrow the claims. The Examiner also stated reasons for allowance. While those reasons are correct and proper, they are not the sole reasons that the claims are patentable over the prior art. The scope of the claims should be limited solely by the prior art.

Respectfully submitted,

TSUGUO SATOH et al.

Date: 3/20/2006

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